



UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Resolution on Hate Crime

November 7, 2019

A hate crime is an affront to human dignity and it is antithetical to our values and beliefs at the University of San Diego. We recently learned of a horrific hate crime committed against a USD first-year student, Eleanor Wheeler on October 24, 2019. Eleanor identifies as gender non-binary, which means that they do not identify exclusively as a man or a woman. The student's dorm room door was vandalized with despicable slurs and calls for the student to commit suicide.

As such, we, the members of the University Senate,

1. Resolve that such behavior is reprehensible and has no place at USD.
2. Stand in solidarity with and encourage all members of the University to join us in affirming our support for persons who are targets of hate speech or action, including all our transgender and non-binary (TGNB) students, colleagues, friends, and community members as well as the broader LGBTQ+ community, their allies, and others who may be impacted by this hate crime.
3. Use this incident as a call to action to all members of the University community to determine specific ways to make our campus a safer and more welcoming environment for all individuals, particularly those in our LGBTQ+ community.
4. Urge the University administration to evaluate policies and procedures related to the prevention of, response to, and reporting of hate crimes and make amendments as needed.

This resolution will be shared with the University's senior leadership including the President, Provost, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, and the University community.